

**MICHAEL BEST
& FRIEDRICH LLP**
Attorneys at Law



One South Pinckney Street
P.O. Box 1806
Madison, WI 53701-1806
FAX (608) 283-2275
Telephone (608) 257-3501

Author: Grady J. Frenchick
Writer's Direct Line: (608) 283-0109
Email: gjfrenchick@mbf-law.com

Offices in:
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Manitowoc, Wisconsin
Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania
Chicago, Illinois
(Michael Best & Friedrich LLC)

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August 31, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/530,663
Filed: July 11, 2000
Applicant: Chiang, et al.
GENETIC ENGINEERING OF LIGNIN BIOSYNTHESIS IN PLANTS
Group Art Unit: 1638
Examiner: O. Zaghmout
File No. 066040-9651

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in response to Office Action mailed July 31, 2001, are the following documents:

1. Response to Restriction Requirement;
2. Copy of Office Action from parent application 08/969,046 mailed 07/13/01;
3. Copy of Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. 1.131 filed in parent application 08/969,046 and signed by inventor Chiang on October 30, 2000;
4. Associate Power of Attorney.

Consideration of the enclosed response and allowance of all pending claims in this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL BEST & FRIEDRICH LLP

Sara D. Vinarov Ph.D., J.D.

SDV:lir

Enclosures

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